SOME FEW

REMARKS,

UPON

A *Scandalous Book*, againſt the GOVERNMENT and MINISTRY of

NEW-ENGLAND.

Written,

By one *ROBERT CALEF.*

Detecting the Unparrallel'd Malice & Falſehood, of the ſaid Book;

AND

Defending the Names of ſeveral particular Gentlemen, by him therein aſperſed & abuſed.

Compoſed and Publiſhed by ſeveral Perſons belonging to the Flock of ſome of the Injured Paſtors, and concerned for their Juſt Vindication.

Truth will Come off Conqueror.

Boſton, N. E. Printed by *T. Green*, Sold by *Nicholas Boone.* 1701.

TO THE CHRISTIAN

Reader.

THE *False Narrations, and Odious Representations, contained in that Scandalous Book, written by* Robert Calf, *has made our worthy Pastors Obnoxious (for ought we know) to hard Censures, among an unguided multitude. We have little hopes of convicting any, who are so full fraughted with the Venome of that Book, as that no Evidence will avail, but in spite of all that is hitherto known, will still retain a Belief to the contrary: yet this we hope, that those who are not such grand Enemies to Truth, may hereby be satisfyed in those things which they have hitherto but doubted of; for want of which knowledge, they have been unable to defend those Faithful Servants of Christ. That is the End of this Book; That those who are well wishers to the Eminent Servants of Christ, and His People, may be able to oppose all gainsayers, who by their Reproaches, and Slanders, go about to render them Odious to the world; whereby they will be deprived of all their desired Opportunities to Serve God & his Faithful People. If this shall help any therein, we*

shall obtain our desires, and have no cause to Repent that ever we spent our Time and Cost about it; But Rejoyce that ever we undertook this Task. Now that there may be no more Slandering and Reviling, and Reproaching one another, but that we may be all bound in the Bands of Unity, Singing the Song of the Glorious Angels above; Glory to God in the Highest, on Earth Peace, Good Will towards men: *Is the hearty Desire and Prayer of those, who in the Name, at the Desire, and with the Consent, of many others, have put this Book into your Hands.*

Obadiah Gill
John Barnard
John Goodwin
William Robie
Timothy Wadsworth
Robert Cumbey
George Robinson.

SECT. I.

NEW-ENGLAND was once a place, in which the Feet of them that brought the Good Tidings of the Gospel were beautiful. But there is now sprung up a Number, who seem to be of another Spirit: No wonder then if those who are Faithful to Christ and His Interest, are Reproached and Maligned by them that serve His greatest Enemy. It is an awful Symptom, of some sad thing near unto *The Churches*, when the most Faithful, and Painful Labourers among us *in them*, are bemired and bespattered by Ungodly men. But that God who said, *Blessed are ye when men Revile you, and Persecute you, and speak all manner of Evil of you, falsely for my sake*; will reward them.

There is according to our esteem of it, a Libellous Book lately come unto this Countrey, which Book may truely be called, *A Fire-brand thrown by a Mad-man*; which is writ (with what help we know not) by one Robert Calef, who presumes to call himself *Merchant of Boston*; but we wish, *Better* Wares were vended, by this

this *Merchant*. The Book is full as is thought by Good men, of Scurrilous Reflections on the *Government*, as well as the *Miniſters* of the Countrey.

And Firſt, for the *Government*; the tendency of the Book is to perſwade the People, that the *Judges* of the Land; are the Unjuſteſt, Cruelleſt and moſt Blood-thirſty men; *Our Wiſe men* (ſayes he) *becoming Fools*. What was done by them in the dark time of our Troubles from the *Inviſible World*, all Honeſt men believe, they did in Conſcience of the *Oath* of God upon them, and they followed unto the beſt of their Underſtanding, as we are informed, the Precedents of *England* and *Scotland*, and *other Nations*, on ſuch a Dark and Doleful occaſion. When they found the matter carried beyond the reach of *Mortals*, they ſtopt; and the Honourable Lieutenant Governour, Council and Aſſembly of the Province, in a Publick Proclamation for a *Faſt*; called for the Prayers of the Countrey, *That whatſoever miſtakes on either hand have been fallen into, referring to the late Troubles raiſed among us by* Satan, *and his Inſtruments, through the awful Judgments of God, he would Humble us therefore, and Pardon us*. After that thoſe our Honourable Judges (fearing leaſt wrong ſteps might have been taken) had thus ſet apart a *Day* for ſolemn Humiliation before the Lord, humbly Impto-

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ring His Pardon for what might have been done amiss; for him to *Repeat that matter*, and set it out with imperfect Relations and odious Aggravations, thereby intending to render the Land, and the Judges obnoxious (tho' all the Learning that he and wiser men than he, pretends unto, is insufficient to dive to the Bottom of the matter;) and for him to speak as he does of those Honourable Persons, (as you will find in his præface,) *as men obstinate in an Error, and involved in the guilt of the Blood shed by Pagans and Papists before them:* what shall we think of it, but that 'tis inhumane, and fit for none but a *Servant* of the worst Master? One would have thought, that the *Fear of God* (if he has any) should have darted that Scripture into his mind, (while compiling such a Pamphlet) Exod. 22. 28. *Thou shalt not speak Evil of the Ruler of thy People.*

But then, for the *Ministry*; we do admire with what face he dares so wilfully to Reproach, and Libel the Servants of Christ? How dares he affirm (as p. the last, of his preface) *That the Accusations from the Spectral sight, being the chief Evidence against those that Suffered, were upheld both by Magistrates and Ministers, so long as they apprehended themselves in no danger; and then, though they could Defend neither the Doctrine nor the Practice, yet none of them have in such a Publick manner, as the Case requires Testified a-*

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gainſt either. 'Tis well known by thoſe who have ever read over the *Wonders of the Inviſible World*, *Enchantments Encountred*, p. 6. that the Judgment of the Miniſters was, *That the Dæmons might impoſe the Shapes of Innocent perſons in their Spectral Exhibitions.* And it was the advice of the Elders to the Governour and Council, in the beginning of the *Salem* Troubles, Expreſt in ſuch words as thoſe, *Ench. Enc.* p. 15. *That Preſumptions whereupon perſons may be Committed, and much more Convictions whereupon perſons may be Condemned as guilty of Witchcraſts, ought certainly to be more Conſiderable, than barely the Accuſed perſons being Repreſented by a Spectre, unto the afflicted, nor are alterations in the ſufferers by a Look, or a Touch of the Accuſed, to be eſteemed an Infallible evidence of Guilt, but frequently liable to be abuſed by the Devils Legerdemains.* And a Book Compoſed by the Reverend Præſident of the Colledge, was afterwards Publiſhed for that purpoſe, whereunto, Fourteen Reverend Miniſters ſet their hands. But this is not all, for the whole Body of the Miniſters in the Countrey are charged, as *Guilty of Sacriledge in the higheſt Degree, if not Direct Blaſphemy, and Diabolical Wickedneſs.* [p. 155.] Elſewhere he vilely endeavours, to charge them with an Opinion, *That there are more Almighties than one, and that Satan is Almighty, and can do what he pleaſes.* He inſinuates, that our Reverend

Reverend Miniſters make the Devil an *Independent Being*, and (as he ſayes) *Conſequently a God.* An abominable Charge! Certainly he was altogether unmindful of that Scripture, Deut. 33. 11. *Of Levi, he ſaid, Lord ſmite thro' the Loins of them that riſe up againſt him.* That there ſhould be any in the midſt of us, that by publiſhed Libels go about thus to render the worthy Paſtors of the Flocks of Chriſt odious to them, is matter of Grief unto *us*; and no doubt but 'tis ſo to *all Good men.* It was highly rejoycing to us, when we heard that our *Book-ſellers* were ſo well acquainted with the Integrity of our Paſtors, as not one of them would admit of any of thoſe *Libels* to be vended in their ſhops. And it was our Hope that a *further Teſtimony* would have been born by others againſt ſuch pernicious attempts to blow up the Religion of God among us. But the doing of a piece of Juſtice to our own Reverend & Faithful Paſtors, whom Satan hath ſingled out (by this Inſtrument) *above others* to ſpit his Venome upon, is that which in a more eſpecial manner has obliged us thus to appaer Publickly. Theſe worthy perſons are the main *Butts* ſet up for the Devil to ſhoot his *Arrows* at, eſpecially now by a Volumn conſiſting of moſt Lying abuſes, and aſperſions. We have no need to wonder at their not taking the pains to vindicate themſelves from theſe Injuries, or give any other

 anſwer,

but, *The Lord Rebuke thee.* Contempt is the best *Answer*, and a Person so inconsiderable is not worthy to be reguarded by them: But the Lord will *require them Good for the Cursing of every Shimei.* They will be the more Loved and vallued by all Wise and Good men, for thus suffering the contradiction of Sinners. But it has been the desire of many of our Godly Neighbours, that some of us, who do belong unto their Flock, would publickly appear in the *Vindication* of those Injured Servants of Christ: The motion was not made unto us, by either of our *Pastors*, and (though it is to *them* that we are beholden for *Information* Relating to certain *matters* of Fact yet) they are neither of them the Authors, of this Composure. For there are many belonging to our Congregation, that are as fit, and as able to write *Books*, as he who has been the occasion of our undertaking this Task, and several of them have been ready to assist us. And we have good Grounds to hope, that the hearts of all Sincere Christians will rejoyce to see any people so ready to Vindicate their Injured Pastors. But we have grounds to fear, lest the Grand Enemy of mankind should hinder our Childrens Converſion to God, and obtaining Salvation by the painful endeavours of our Faithful Teachers; and lest the Holy and useful Books, Composed by their Elaborate

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endeavours to ſerve the Intereſt of Chriſt, (which the Lord has Bleſſed for the ſeaſoning of thouſands of perſons with good Thoughts, from one end of the Land unto the other,) ſhould looſe their Reliſh, Power, and Efficacy among the Churches abroad, unleſs ſomething to defeat the Deſigns of that *Evil One*, in the *Venemous Book*, now Publiſhed againſt them, be performed by us.

SECT. II.

Is there any among the Children of men, that have Sold themſelves to ſerve the Intereſt of Satan to purpoſe? Let it be their Study by their *Slanders* to Blaſt the Reputation of thoſe, in whom the Honour of God, and of His Religion, and the Salvation of Souls is much concerned. This we take to be the Grand Aim and End of all that Robert Calef can call his own, throughout his whole *Treatiſe*. And now, vent thy malice; ſpeak what thou haſt to Accuſe them of; they ſhall come off with flying Colours.

We will a little firſt, lay open a few of thoſe many Lyes, and infamous Reflections, and defaming Invectiyes contained in the treatiſe under our preſent notice, againſt Mr. *Mather* the Elder. The Reverend Mr. Increaſe Mather is Charged with Unfaithfulneſs, in his Nego-

tiation in *England*, as Agent on the behalf of this Colony: in p. 95. 'tis said, *The Agents did not all of them Act according to the Mind and Interest of those that impowred them, which is manifest by their not Acting joyntly in what they did.* Herein he not only Reflects upon that well known, and eminent Servant of Christ and His People, but also upon Sir *Henry Ashurst*, a worthy Gentleman, who did (as we are well assured) with all the care and pains imaginable, seek the Good of *New-England*, and thereby has laid us under endless obligations of Gratitude. We hope, the Friends of *New-England*, will not think that all persons will treat them so ill, as this man endeavours to do. 'Tis as certain to us, as any such things can be, that neither Sir *Henry* nor Mr. *Mather*, Acted in the Publick Affairs of this Colony, any otherwise then according to the best advice of the best and wisest Friends to *New-England*, then residing in *London* with whom they alwayes consulted. But if Mr, *Mather*'s words are not to be taken in his own case, then take the Testimony of the Reverend Mr. *Mead*, in a Letter to a Gentleman in *Boston*, well known to us, which runs thus,

Mr. Mather *has deserved highly of* New-England, *for the unfainting Diligence, and indefatigable Endeavours, he has shewed in his Agen-*

ey for that people, and while some with you may perhaps wonder that he has obtained no more, we here, who have the advantage of a better Prospect, wonder that he hath done so much. And if men reward not his great Work, and Labour of Love, I am sure God will. What he has done has not been without the Counsel and Advice of the best Friends, that Countrey has in this, both Parliament men, Lawyers, and Ministers. And to be thankful for what you have for the present, is the way to get what you want hereafter. Thus writes that Eminent person, who is now gone to a better World. To Confirm this, we have in our hands a Printed Extract of a Letter from the Right Worshipful Sir *Henry Ashurst*, to the General Assembly in *Boston*, whose words are;

I have not for above Twelve Months troubled you with any of my Letters because I knew my worthy Friend Mr. Mather, *did not omit any opportunity of acquainting you with every thing, wherein your Interest was concerned. I shall not much enlarge upon the Services that Mr.* Mather *hath done, for you have his true Character sent you by the Reverend Dr.* Bates *and others, the most Eminent Ministers in and about this Town. But I am sure, he has been Faithful to your Interests and diligent and unwearied in your Service, with the neglect of his Health: he hath lived here for* You, *and deserveth the greatest marks of your Favour*

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you can bestow on him. Mr. Mather *and my self, in transacting your affairs, did not leave any way unattempted, that the wisest Friends we could Consult with could direct us unto. When the King was Petitioned to make alterations in your Settlement, and to appoint a Governour, and other General Officers, we then joyned all our Interest together, and obtained the naming of every one of them, and other Priviledges that are not Granted to any other Plantations. None have been more Industrious by all possible means than Mr.* Mather, *and myself, to have obtained your* Old Charter. *I hope Mr.* Mather *will do me that Justice, to assure you, that I have never omitted any opportunity of serving you to the utmost of my Power.* Thus that worthy Gentleman. However, If this will not suffice, we can produce a Letter Subscribed by Thirteen Eminent Non-conformist Ministers in *London.* It is as follows.

To the much Honoured General Court Assembled at Boston *in* New-England.

Much Honoured Gentlemen.

" The restoring your *Charter*, upon which " the Security and Publick Good of your Co- " lony depends, we Congratulate with as joyful " Affections, as with tender Resentments we " Condoled the deprivation of it. When your

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" and our State was in appearance desolate be-
" yond humane Counsel and Power to redress,
" then Deliverance came from above: and in
" our deep Darkness, the Day-spring from
" an High visited us. We most humbly Ad-
" mire and Adore the Glorious Author of that
" Blessed work: And we cannot but pay our
" most Grateful Respects, and Dutiful Sub-
" jection to His Chosen Servant, our Soveraign,
" the happy Instrument of it. All the Colours
" of Language are not lively and grateful
" enough to express His benefits to us. He
" has the Honour of Establishing our Religion
" at home, and gives us hopes of Restoring it
" abroad, in places from whence it has been
" Unrighteously and Cruelly expelled.

" Some among you may wonder there has
" been so long delay before your *Charter* was
" finisht, but if you consider the Torrent of
" affairs in the Court after the Late Revolu-
" tion, it will lessen the wonder.

" The Truth is, your affairs were so Difficult
" and Thorny, that the rare union of the
" Wisdom of the *Serpent*, and the Innocence
" of the *Dove*, was requisite in the Commis-
" sioners managing of it. A peremptory Re-
" fusal of any Charter, but of an uniform
" Tenor with the first, had been like too strong a
" Medicine, that Exasperates the Disease in-
" stead of Curing it. In affairs of great im-

" portance,

" portance, 'tis wisdom maturely to delibe-
" rate, and Consider conditional events, and
" by the foresight of Inconveniencies that will
" otherwise follow, to accept of such things as
" are best with respect to their Circumstances.

" We must therefore give this true Testi-
" mony of our much Esteemed and Beloved
" Brother, Mr. *Increase Mather*, That with in-
" violate Integrity, excellent Prudence, and
" unfainting Diligence, he hath managed the
" great business committed to his Trust As
" he is instructed in the School of Heaven,
" to Minister in the affairs of the Soul, so he
" is furnished with a Talent to transact affairs
" of State. His proceedings have been with
" that Caution and Circumspection, as is cor-
" respondent to the weight of his Commission;
" he with Courage, and Constancy has pursued
" the noble scope of his employment, and un-
" derstanding the true moment of things, has
" preferred thePublick Good to the vain con-
" ceits of some, that more might have been ob-
" tained if peremptorily insisted on; Considering
" open opposition and secret arts that have
" been used to frustrate the best endeavours for
" the Interest of *New-England*, the happy issue
" ofthese things is superiour to ourExpectations.
" Your present Charter securesLiberty and Pro-
" perty, the fairest flowers of the Civil State:

" and which is incomparably more valuable,
" it ſecures the enjoyment of the Bleſſed Goſpel
" in its purity & freedome. Altho' there is a
" reſtraint of your power in ſome things that
" were granted in the former Charter, yet there
" are more ample Priviledges in other things that
" may be of perpetual advantage to the Co-
" lony.

" We doubt not but your Faithfull Agent
" will receive a Gracious reward above: And
" we hope his ſucceſsfull Service will be wel-
" comed with your entire approbation, & grate-
" ful acceptance. We now with ardent af-
" fections recommend our Dear Brother to the
" Divine mercy, that thro' ſuch dangerous Seas
" he may ſafely arrive at his deſired place: And
" we earneſtly pray, that the Bleſſings of Hea-
" ven may be alwayes upon your Colony; that
" by the Light and Power of the Goſpel, the
" Prince of Darkneſs may be expelled from his
" ancient Dominions; and the Kingdome of our
" Saviour, may be Eſtabliſhed & Enlarged, by the
" Acceſſion of the American Heathen to be His
" Inheritance.

Much Honoured Gentlemen,

We are,

Your very Humble, & Faithful Servants.

London, Octob. 17.

1691.

William Bates. Thomas Woodcock.

Matthew Mead.
Matthew Parker.
Richard Stretton.
Vincent Alsop.
John How.
John James.
Samuel Annesly.
George Griffith.
Richard Mayo.
Isaac Chauncy.
John Quick.

Now if Mr. *Mather* in his Negotiation for his Countrey, acted Faithfully according to his judgement, and if the wisest Friends *New-England* had in *England* thought, as he did, (as is abundantly attested by persons of great Eminency) why has this Impertinent man impeached his Fidelity?

Is it possible that a man should have more and greater Testimonies to the Faithful discharge of his Duty in seeking the Good of this Countrey, to the utmost of his ability? Robert Calef dares not say here is not sufficient Witnesses. No, but this he does. He gives a *Kick* at these great men: for he sayes [p. 150.] *Mr.* Mather *got several Non-conformist Ministers to give him a Testimonial, or Letters of Commendation for his great service.* What great Folly is it to cast such Reflections and Contumelies? See both the *Folly* & *Falshood* of it. What if Mr *Mather* had done so? where would have been the damage of it? Is not he guilty of great *Folly*, to think that a Number of as Godly, Discreet, and Excellent per-

persons as any in the City of *London*, would set their Hands to they knew not what, and so positively assert a thing they were ignorant of? However, 'tis altogether False; Mr. *Mather* (as he has affirmed to us never had such a thought come into his mind, nor it may be never would, as to have asked such Testimonials, had not a person of Quality that was his particular Friend, desired that Dr *Bates*, might draw up such a Letter: and that *great Doctor*, (when he had well weighed & considered our Charter) most readily did it. And the Doctor presented this Letter thus drawn up by himself, to such Ministers as he thought fit, and *Ten* of them subscribed it, before ever Mr. *Mather* spoke a word to them about it. But who shall be Judge, *whether the Reverend* Increase Mather *Faithfully served the Interest of his Countrey or no?* Shall this *Calf* be Judge, or the *People* themselves? We think it most fitting the *People* should be Judge; and they shall be so. When the greatest General Court that ever was in *New-England*, Assembled at *Boston* in the year 1692. Mr. *Mather* (as he informs us) waited on *them* with the *Instructions* which were sent to him at *London* as *Agent* of the *Colony*; and on *June* the 9th, every one of the *Instructions* were read by him, before the whole *Assembly*; where he declared to their satisfaction, how to the utmost of his power, he had punctually ob-

ſerved every one of them. And on *June* 24th. Mr. *Bond* then Speaker of the *Repreſentatives*, did in the Name of the whole *Houſe*, return him hearty Thanks, for his Unwearied and Faithful endeavours to ſerve his Countrey: he alſo added, that they were ſenſible, it was their Duty to reward thoſe his Faithful endeavours, but by reaſon of the Expenſive War they then Laboured under, they could not perform what they were willing to do on that account; Whereupon, Mr. *Mather* (uſing the words of the Apoſtle,) ſaid, *He ſought not theirs but them*, in what he had endeavoured and performed for them: and added, *He was willing to wait for a Recompence in another World*. As for Robert Calfs ſaying, The *Agents* could not all act for the Intereſt of them that employed them, becauſe *they did not Act joyntly*; It is both Fooliſh and Falſe. Might they not all Act for the ſame *Good End*, and yet have their various thoughts abouts the *Beſt Means* to be uſed for it? Might they not all of them to the utmoſt of their power, Labour to obtain the *Old Charter*, and all the priviledges contained in it, with additional ones, and yet when they ſaw their hopes fruſtrated, differ in their apprehenſions, what was beſt now to be done? Might not the want of certain Great Priviledges (of the *Old Charter* in the *New One*) cauſe ſome of them to think, it beſt

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to take nothing at all, and yet others think it better taking up with *Half a Loaf than no Bread*, and ſo get what poſſibly they could obtain for the preſent, and wait the iſſue of Providence for the obtaining of more: and yet all of them ſincerely and ſtrenuouſly preſs after the beſt Good and Intereſt of them that impowred them? All the Agents are moſt worthy Perſons, and every one of them hath deſerved great acknowledgments from this Province, on account of their Faithful Endeavours to Serve the Publick Intereſt.

It is not worth our while to take notice of every thing this *Calf* ſayes, 'tis often ſo impertinent; However, we will ſay lay open one thing more. He ſayes, [p. 147.] that Mr. *Mather* procured a Charter for Sir *William* to be Governour, and *himſelf Eſtabliſhed Præſident of the Colledge.* Can there be greater Nonſence mixed with Malice! How could this be, when Mr. *Mather* had been Præſident of the Colledge *Ten* Years before Sir *William* came to be Governour? And it is well known that the Corporation, and all perſons concerned in the Colledge, and the whole General Court did urge Mr. *Mather* to accept of the Præſidentſhip of the Colledge *Twenty* Years ago; and though for diverſe years he acted as Præſident, yet he refuſed to be Eſtabliſhed in the place he

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then managed, but was active in causing another to be Chosen who Resided there about a Year, and then went to the Heavenly World. After that, the General Court & Corporation did again apply themselves to him, thinking none so fit to undertake the Care and Inspection of that Society, on which depends the well-being of *New-England*, as HE was, which accordingly he undertook in the Year 1684. and ever since he has had that Charge imposed on him, though there are Witnesses enough, he hath Frequently and Earnestly desired to be eased thereof. Spit on, *Cal*; thou shalt be but like the *Viper* on *Pauls* hand, easily shaken off, and without any damage to the Servant of the Lord. What more has he to say? Why this, That Mr. *Mather* should not have accepted the Charter, but (*p.* 150) *have stayed until His Majesties return from Flanders.* Upon this Article we enquired of the Reverend Mr. *Mather*, concerning that matter, and received from him under his hand as followeth;

'When the *King* was pleased to give a positive Command that the *Charter* of *New-England* should be dispatched, it was not for 'the *Agents* to say, it shall not be so. True 'it is, that *all the Agents* when they saw what '*Minutes* would be inserted in the *Charter*, 'were desirous of a delay, until the *Kings* hap-

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py return to *England*. And I may without vanity say, no man laboured to have it so, more then my self. I prayed Arch-Bishop *Tillotson* to intercede with the *Queen* for this favour to us, who at my request did so. Moreover, I drew up several Reasons against that which in the *Minutes* of the *New-Charter* is most grievous to us; which were by Sir *Henry Ashurst*, and my self, delivered to His Majesties Attourney General, on *July*, 24. 1691. and which I did also send to my Lord *Sidney*, one of His Majesties principal Secretaries of State, then with the *King* in *Flanders*. I now thought that there would be no further proceedings about the *Charter* for *New-England* before His *Majesties* return. *Physicians* advised me to go into the *Countrey* and use the Mineral waters for the recovery of my impaired Health. Before I had been there *Three weeks*, I was to my surprize sent for to *London*, with information, that the *King* had signifi d His Royal Pleasure to the Earle of *Nottingham*, that there should be a procedure with a *Charter* for the *Massachusett Colony*, according to the *Minutes* that the Lords of the *Committee* for *Plantation* had agreed to, notwithstanding the Objections of the *Agents* to the Contrary. A certain Person then in the world, gave out that I was imposed on, and made to believe that such a Signification of His

'*Majesties* Pleasure was sent to the Secretary 'of State, when there was no such thing. I 'therefore prayed the Earle of *Nottingham* (who was then the principal Secretary of 'State) to be so kind, as to order his *Clerk* to 'give me a Copy of what the *King* had or-'dered should be done, which his *Lordship* was 'pleased to gratify me in, and I still have the 'Original Copy written with the hand of his 'Lordships Clerk, by me. It is in these words.

Extract of a Letter from my Lord *Sidney* to my Lord *Nottingham*. *Dated*

Court *Aug.* 10. 1691.

My Lord.

I have received your Lordships of July 31. *and have shewed it the King, and the Enclosed order upon the Report of the Committee of Plantations, touching the* Minutes *for a* Charter *for the* Massachusetts Colony, *wherein His Majesties further Pleasure is desired. I am now commanded by the* King *to let your Lordship know that he doth approve of what the* Committee *hath done in that matter, and can by no means admit of the Objections of the Agents of the said* Colony, *and therefore would have your Lordship proceed accordingly.*

This is a true Copy compared with the Original.

Richard Warre.

'Now

'Now let the world Judge, yea and *Robert* '*Calef*'s Conſcience (if it be not Seared) judge, 'whether he has done well to endeavour to 'Blemiſh my Reputation in Print, by inſinu- 'ating as if I had done amiſs, in not ſtopping the 'proceedings in the Charter for this *Province*, 'when it was not in my power to do it. 'Yet nevertheleſs, after this I obtained thoſe 'clauſes in the *Charter*, which Confirm all 'donations to Schools of Learning, and all 'Grants of Lands, by former General Courts, '*&c.* to be inſerted in the preſent Charter: 'for which better men than *Robert Calef* are 'of Opinion, that the *Countrey* owes me Thanks. 'I ſhall further add, that after the *Charter* was 'finiſhed, ſeveral Right Honourable Perſons 'ſaid to me, they were glad of what was gain- 'ed, and that they could aſſure me, that if 'the proceedings had been delayed, until the 'Kings return, more would not have been 'obtained.

'I hear that ſome of *Robert Calefs* Abettors 'whiſper, that the Reverend Miniſters at *Lon- 'don*, Repented of their writing ſuch a Letter 'of Atteſtation to my Fidelity, and that in a '*Faſt*, they bewailed their Sin in that matter. 'It muſt needs be *Malice* that has invented 'ſuch a Ridiculous Story. Had it been *True*, 'it is very *Strange* that none of them would

'signify it to me, but the contrary. Part of
'this, was whispered Seven Years ago, when
'in Print I Charged the Authors of that re-
'port, to be *Forgers of Lies*. It was particu-
'larly whispered, that the Reverend Mr. *Quick*
'Repented of his Subscribing the Letter:
'Whereupon, I wrote to him concerning it,
'and Mr. *Quick* returned an Answer in these
'words.

You write of some persons, who have Reported my Repentance for Subscribing your Attestation Sir, I have not the Command of other mens Tongues As for W. *he is a man to whom I am a utter Stranger, having never heard his Name before I read it in your Letter. Another and I, had some Discourse about you. The Sum of my Answer to them was this, I knew you to be a Learned and Prudent man, and believed you to be one Fearing God, and therefore durst not Credit what any one should say of you in your Absence. And I pray you let not other mens Reports of me, at so great a distance be Credited against me. I Subscribed the Letter Voluntrrily, and to the best of my Understanding Judiciously, and Conscientiously; as I Believe all those other Reverend Ministers, who gave you their Hands: and I know nothing to the contrary, why I should not joyn in such Good Company.*

Thus writes the Reverend Mr. *Quick*.

'Mo

'Moreover, when the Famous Dr *Anneſly* 'was informed, that ſome Reported as if he 'Repented of his having *Set* his Hand to that 'Letter, he replyed, with ſome warmth of 'Spirit; *If there be any need of it, I will Set both my Hands to it: For Mr.* Mather *did well, when he could not poſſibly obtain more for his Countrey, to take up with the beſt he could get.*

'I am alſo told, that there are ſome men, 'who formerly had no great kindneſs for *Robert 'Calef*, but are now, becauſe of his reviling 'me and my Son, (which not a little grati-'fies the *Enemies* to the Holy Churches of '*New-England*) become his great *Friends*; 'and that theſe complain, that I ſpent the 'Countrey a great deal of Money during 'my *Agency* in their behalf. Theſe little men 'know not what it is to attend in the Courts 'of Kings, for Four Years together: if they 'did, they would not make that objection. And 'ſure I am, that when I did at the deſire of 'many principal perſons in the Countrey, un-'dertake a Voyage for *England* in *April* 1688. 'People in this Province, would gladly have 'given *Ten times* more then what I Expended 'in their Service, on condition they might 'have Reſtored and Confirmed to them, what 'now they enjoy: yea, if it had been but in

'*one Article* of it. But besides this, I may 'truely affirm that in effect, I served the 'Countrey on *Free Cost*. For I never demand-'ed the least Farthing as a recompence, for 'the Time I spent in attending on their Affairs, 'but instead thereof, I procured in *Donations* 'for the Publick, (besides the Priviledges of 'the Charter it self, which, though not so 'great as I would have had, & as I would gladly 'have parted with all I have in this world 'to have purchased, are greater than any 'other Plantations besides *New-England* en-'joyes: I say, besides these things, I pro-'cured in *Donations* to the Province and the 'Colledge,) at least *Nine Hundred Pounds* 'more then all the Expences of my Agency 'came to. This being plain *matter of Fact*, 'which the whole *General Assembly* once had 'laid before them, I suppose all Reasonable 'men, will own, That Reproaches cast on me, 'for my *Expensiveness* in the Publick Service, 'are most Ungrateful and Unworthy.

Thus hath he answered our Request unto him; & now Judge, whether Mr *Mather* were to blame in these matters. The Author of the Scurrilous Book now need not to wonder, that Mr. *Mather* should Print a *Brief Narrative of his Negotiation in* England: He had before sent a written Copy thereof to *New-England*,

England, which was read in the General Court, (as we are informed) unto their great Satisfaction. Yet he did not without grounds Conjecture, there might be other persons in the world, of the same Kidney with this *Calf*; and therefore, that so (especially in case of his own Mortallity at Sea) his Friends might do him Justice, it was great Prudence in him to Print a convenient Number of Copies of the said *Narrative*. The *Adversary*, on this occasion goes on to fling at Mr. *Mather*. A Letter he sent to one in *England*, at the same time with himself, who formerly belonged to the *North-Church* in *Boston*, which Letter [he sayes] *some call a Bull*. But what matters it, if they call it so, and a *Calf* too? Since that, the person he mentions is returned to *New-England*, and he did acknowledge his Error before Mr. *Mather* and one of the *Deacons* of the *North-Church*. Whereupon Mr. *Mather* did as became a Disciple of Christ, Forgive him, and declared himself Reconciled unto him. Doubtless this *Weaver* wants work, or he would not have troubled the world with such Trifles. And now, for a closure, sayes he, (p. 151.) *that Mr.* Mather *deserves as much Thanks, as Dr.* Sharp *did when sent by the Presbytery of* Scotland, *to procure the Settlement of their Kirk, &c.* who (by what we have heard of that story) to get himself made a Bishop, did what he could to undermine the Presbyterian Government.

Certainly, *Satan himself* could not but blush to say, that ever Mr. *Mather* went to Destroy the Government of *New-England*, either as to their Civil or Ecclesiastical Constitution. *Robert Calef himself*, cannot but say, (p. 151.) *That the present* Charter *of* New-England *is truely Valuable, as containing in it peculiar Priviledges, which abundantly engage this People to pay the Tribute of Thankfulness to His Majesty.* With what face then can he insinuate that no Thanks are due to the Instruments of obtaining such a *Valuable Charter*, and so many *peculiar Priviledges*? Surely he was besides himself, when he wrote such things as these. Is it not well known, that when our former *Charter* was *Quo Warrantoed*, in the Reign of K. *Charles* II. then at the request of the *Selectmen* in *Boston*, Mr. *Mather* did appear at a Town-Meeting (though he does not use to be at such Meetings,) and did Encourage and Excite them, to stand by their *Charter-Priviledges*, and not to give away what was the *Inheritance of their Fathers.* He could not but be sensible, that by appearing so openly in such a cause, he ventured very far, but being satisfied that he was called of God to do what he did, he went to it with a Chearful Heart. Whereupon (as we have heard, & no doubt it is true) complaints were entred against him in that Kings Court, for his withstanding their designs

ſigns. And ſince the Condemnation of that *Charter*, has he not laboured with might and main, that the *Judgment* iſſued againſt it might be reverſed? Did not his earneſt Endeavours, with leading *Parliament-men*, procure the paſſing of a *Vote* in the *Houſe of Commons*, declaring that the taking away of the Charter of *New-England*, was *Illegal and a Grievance*? Whereupon, a Bill was paſſed in the *Houſe for the Reſtauration of it*? When he had the Honour to ſpeak to the *King*, was it not his Humble Requeſt to His *Majeſty*, that all the Charter-priviledges of *New-England*, might be Reſtored to them? Did he not Humbly Petition the *Queens* Majeſty, to intercede with the *King* for His Royal Favour herein, who was moſt Graciouſly pleaſed to aſſure him, that Her Majeſty would do ſo? Theſe things are no ſecrets, every body has opportunity to know the Truth of them. We are well aſſured that Mr. *Mather* never gave away any Priviledges of the Countrey, but inſtead of that, was an happy Inſtrument of regaining ſome very Great Priviledges, which were unjuſtly taken from us: And as in the Proſecution thereof, he did (as the Honourable Sir *Henry Aſhurſt* tells the Aſſembly) impair his *Health*, ſo we believe he whould not have counted his *Life* Dear to him, would that have obtained what he Zealouſly endeavoured

for

for us. Is there any man that has been more Faithful to the Churches of *New-England*? Has he not for these many Years, both at home and abroad, with Tongue and Pen, to his utmost, Defended these Churches, and their Government? What reason then, has this man to speak so Falsely, and Maliciously, of him? But the Faithfullest Servants of Christ, must look to be Reviled and Reproached, for so was their MASTER before them.

SECT. III.

As it is observed, the Lord has Remarkably joyned the two Mr. *Mathers* in serving His Churches, so tis observable, that the Enemy cannot but joyn them in his Malignant Calumnies and Reproaches; and it is but Justice for us, to joyn them in our Vindicating of them. Our Mr. *Mather* the Younger, must not be troubled, if Ill-men, that Revile his most Reverend *Father*, shall give him a proportionable share in their malice. There are more *Fiery Darts* shot at this worthy Person, by the hand of *Robert Calef*, than at any one; but if he will do as he uses to do, his Prayer, and Faith, and Patience, and Holy Conversation, will soon quench them. However, it is our Duty to Vindicate him,

him, if he think it needleſs to Vindicate himſelf: Though indeed he has a witneſs for him in the Conſciences of all that in the leaſt meaſure *Know* him. For our parts, we cannot but Bleſs God that ever we knew him. We ſhall but diſpleaſe him, and it may be ſome will think it flattery, if we ſhould pretend to write the Character which this worthy man deſerves; thoſe that are even *his Enemies, being Judges* He was Born and Bred in this Town, where he has for more than *Twenty* Years together, been a Publick Preacher of the Goſpel. It was a comfortable thing to *Samuel*, that he was able to ſay, *I have walked before you, from my Childhood until now*;„ and that he could then appeal to them, to tell how he had walked. So may Mr. *Cotton Mather*. And we do verily believe, there is not ſo much as one man, that has any knowledge of him, but what will own, that they look upon him to be a *worthy Good man, a Scholar, and a Gentleman*. who would not willingly write a thing that is *Falſe*, or do any *Ill* thing upon any Terms; and that he ſpends his Life in Studies, that he might do Good to all ſorts of men: and that he can be Courteous, and full of Kindneſs towards Good People, that be *not* of his own perſwaſion, as well as thoſe that be. If we be not miſ-informed, *Calef* himſelf does confeſs as much as this

comes to ; and others that are displeased at Mr. *Mathe* for his being so significant, in the Service of the Churches, yet when they are out of their angry fits, will confess the same.

As for the wrongs done by *Robert Calef* unto him, some of us address'd him to give us something under his own Hand, that might clear up the Truth unto the Churches. And he has favoured his Friends, with the following Letter.

SIRS,

'Must I then do you and my self the *Justice* 'of Answering your desires, to have under 'my Hand a brief account of these matters, 'wherein I have had the *Honour* (for I may 'count it so,) to be after an horrid manner, 'aspersed and abused, by the Libels of *Robert* 'Calef? Although, 'tis almost as needless a 'thing as can be done, yet it shall be done: 'at least for the *Chief* of them. I remember, 'that when this miserable man sent unto an 'Eminent Minister in the Town, a *Libellous* 'Letter (which he has now also Published in 'his Volumn of Impertinences) reflecting both 'on a Judicious Discourse written by *him*, and 'on the Holy propositions made by the President 'and Fellows of *Harvard-Colledge*, about *record-*

'ing

'ing of *Remarkable-Providences*, and when he 'demanded and expected an Answer to his 'Follies, that Reverend person only said, *Go 'tell him, That the Answer to him and his Le-'ter is in the Twenty-sixth of the* Proverbs, *and 'the Fourth.* When likewise, he sent about un-'to all the Ministers a *Libellous Letter* against 'my self, falsely Charging me with writing in 'a Manuscript of mine, *Ten Articles* (which 'are of his own drawing up) whereof the 'chief are of his *own pure Invention*, there was 'not one of all those Reverend Persons, who 'thought him worthy of an *Answer*. And now 'his Book is come abroad, I cannot hear (and 'many observe the like) of so much as one '*Vertuous* and *Sensible* man, but let their opi-'nions about the *Salem* Troubles, be what they 'will, they detest it, as, a *Vile Book*; as being 'an intire *Libel* upon the whole *Government* 'and *Ministry* in the Land; yea, they think 'it beneath a *Minister* of the Gospel to bestow 'the Pains of an *Answer* upon it. The Book, 'serves but as an *Engine*, to discover (by their 'approbation of it,) a few persons in the 'Land that will distinguish themselves by an 'Exalted *Malignity*. The reason that made 'me unwilling to trust any of my writings in 'the hands of this man, was, because I *saw* the 'Weaver (though he presumes to call himself 'a *Merchant*) was a stranger to all the Rules

of *Civility*; and I *foreſaw*, that I ſhould be ſerved, as, now I find. He has been ſo *Uncivil*, as to Print a Compoſure of mine, utterly without and againſt my Conſent; but the Good Providence of God has therein overruled his Malice: for if that may have *Impartial Readers*, he will have his Confutation, and I my perpetual Vindication. What occaſion for any *further Anſwer?* The *Antiſcriptural Doctrines* Eſpouſed by this man, do alſo call for no *further Anſwer*; for a certain *Scotch-man* (one *Stuart*) of no very great Circumſtances aboard one of our Frigats then in our Harbour, ſent him *Two Letters*, which he has been ſo ſilly as to inſert in his wretched Volumn; and thoſe *Two Letters* are Penned with ſo much Ingenuity, as for ever to leave him and all the Sons of the Blaſphemous *Bekke* without any Excuſe. Only I cannot but obſerve, that although the *abſurd man* be one of ſuch Extream *Unreaſonableneſs*, that ſome of his beſt Friends have told me that they have long ago ſignified unto him, that for *that cauſe*, they did not wonder, that no *Miniſter* did care to be concerned with him, and upon ſome Experiments I have ſeen, it ſeems impoſſible an *Argument* ſhould enter into him, yet he counts it *Anſwer* enough not only unto any *Argument*, but alſo unto the fulleſt *Evidence* under the hands

of

'of the most Conscientious and understanding *Witnesses*, *That he* (forsooth) *can't comprehend it, or won't entertain it.* I affirm, 'that this is the strongest *Argument* brought by 'him in his whole Book; *There is a certain 'Weaver that won't Believe it.* To *him* then 'I owe no *Answer*, but what an *Arch-Angel* 'has taught us to give him. However, to '*You* that are my *Particular Friends*, I may offer 'a little further *Armour*, wherein you may 'at any Time, if you think it worth the 'while, appear for my *Defence.*

'The wrongs that he does me are *Numerous*, 'yea, *Numberless*; he can scarce mention me, 'without a *Lye* about me. I shall only single 'out a few that are more Notorious, and 'give you but a brief touch upon them: from '*them* you shall Judge of the rest.

'His first and main design, is to render me 'odious unto the Countrey, as being one chief '*Abettor* of that opinion, That the *Devils* 'cannot afflict in the Shape of an Innocent 'person; and as being an *Inciter* of the Judges, 'to the Conviction of *Witchcrafts* upon that 'opinion. It is very certain, that his Conscience 'must needs tell him, this is a most *Lying 'Accusation.* For in my Book of *Memorable 'Providences*, which I writ before the troubles

'at

'at *Salem*, & even *before I was so fully acquainted with the Wiles of Satan*,' for my saying of 'which, on a certain occasion, he flouts at 'me) I have a whole paragraph to caution 'against *accounting a Bewitched persons pretending 'to see an Apparition of such or such an one, an 'Argument of their being Naughty People.* And 'some of the chief Ministers in this Land, 'favoured that Book with their *Attestation*, 'and when it was Re-printed in another Land, 'no less a man than Mr, *Baxter*, did recom-'mend it with a Præface, as being likely to 'do great Service to the Christian Religion; 'however, my friend Calef now Derides it. 'And in my Book of the *Invisible World*, writ-'ten in the *highest Ferment* of those Troubles, 'I have *many Pages* to diswade from reli-'ance on the *Representations* made unto the 'Afflicted, and bespeak all possible *Compassion* 'and *Charity* for such as had been so *Repre-'sented* in the Glasses of the *Lying Spirit*: which 'Book was not only ordered by the Gover-'nour, to be Published, with Terms of the 'highest Respect, but also was *Perused* and 'Approved by as Eminent persons as any in 'the Countrey, who were sufficiently dissatis-'fied at the things then a doing. Moreover, 'when the *Ministers* presented unto the *Gover-'nour* & *Council*, their advice against making the '*Spectral Exhibitions* to be so much as a *Pre-*

'*sumption*

'ſumption of *Witchcraft*, it was *my* poor *Hand* 'which drew up that advice, and my *Heart* was 'alwayes in it. It may be no man living ever 'had more people under Preternatural and a-'ſtoniſhing Circumſtances, caſt by the Provi-'dence of God, into his more peculiar care, 'then I have had; but the *Name* of no one 'Good perſon in the world, ever came under 'any *Blemiſh*, that I know of, by means of 'any *Afflicted* perſon, that fell under my par-'ticular care; yea, no Man, Woman or Child, 'ever came into any trouble, for the ſake of 'any that were *Afflicted*, after I had once be-'gan to look after them. And whereas my 'Buffeter ſayes, That His Excellency, the Go-'vernours Pardoning the Condemned perſons, '*was not only without but alſo directly againſt his* '*Paſtors advice*; All the *Miniſters* then in the 'Neighbourhood, will bear witneſs for me, 'that they know this to be a *Falſhood*. And 'after the Storm was raiſed at *Salem*, I did 'my ſelf offer to provide Meat, Drink, and 'Lodging, for no leſs than *Six* of the Afflicted, 'that ſo an Experiment might be made, whether '*Prayer* with *Faſting*, upon the removal of 'thoſe miſerables one from another, might 'not put a period unto the trouble then ariſing, 'without giving the *Civil Authority*, the trou-'ble of proſecuting the methods of the *Law* on 'that occaſion. You'll ſay, how came it then

'to

'to pass, that many people took up another 'Notion of of me? Truely, *Satan knows.* 'Perhaps 'twas becaufe I thought it my Duty 'alwayes to fpeak of the Honourable *Judges* 'with as much Honour as I could; (a Crime 'which I am generally Taxed for, & *for which* 'I *have been finely requited* !) this made people, 'who Judge of things *at a Diftance*, to dream 'that I *approved* of all that was done. Perhaps 'alfo my Difpofition to avoid *Extreams*, as 'tis faid, *he that Feareth God fhall come out of them*, caufeth me generally to be obnoxious 'unto the *Violent* in all parties. Or, perhaps 'my great Adverfary alwayes had certain 'people full of Robert Calefs Malignity, to 'ferve him with Calumnies and Reproaches.

'In profecution of this deign, he formed a 'Scandalous *Libel* againft both my Father and 'my felf, pretending to relate what paffed in 'a *Vifit*, which we made unto a poor *Ener-* 'gumen in our Flock. Thofe men have put 'off all *Humanity* who do not abhor fuch a 'Villanous thing, as the Publifhing of that *Li-* 'bel: For the man had been fufficiently Cer- 'tified that there were almoft as many *Lyes* as 'Lines in it. There is hardly any thing more 'Unpardonable in his whole Volumn than 'thefe *Libels*, wherein he Charges us, with 'Speaking what we never fpoke, and not only

'leaves

'leaves out the *main things* that we did ſpeak,
'(eſpecially, in our Charging the poor Crea-
'ture that ſhe ſhould rather *Dye*, than *Accuſe*
'any people on the account of her ſeeing their
'*Spectres*,) but alſo he makes people believe,
'that our Intention was to procure *Accuſations*;
'Yea, he tries to make them alſo believe ſome-
'thing or other of us that is *Baſe*, and which
'he himſelf lately owned, that he did not in
'the leaſt *Believe* himſelf. And his Ptinting my
'Letter herewithal, can only ſerve to ſhew,
'the *Height* of his own Reſolved and Conſum-
'mate Impiety His *Malice* (like that of *him*,
'whoſe *Inſtrument* he has herein made himſelf)
'has here gone beyond his *Wit*. He could not
'eaſily have inſerted a thing more likely to
'render his Book *Abominable* to all that have
'the leaſt *Chriſtianity* in them. And I believe,
'there is not one *Chriſtian* but what would
'think of it with Indignation, that when
'Miniſters of the Goſpel Faithfully and Care-
'fully diſcharge their Duty in their *Viſits* to
'the Miſerable in their Flocks, little *Bits*, and
'*Scraps*, and *Shreds* of their diſcourſe (carried
'away perhaps by ſome Idle *Eves droppers*)
'ſhould be baſely tack'd together, to render
'them Contemptible; and many *Falſhoods*, yea
'and *Smutty* ones too, and ſuch as none but a
'*Coal* fetch'd from *Hell* could could have ſug-
'geſted, be added for the *Blackening* of them.

'It were enough to procure me the Friend-
'ſhip and eſteem of any men, that have the
'leaſt *grain of Honeſty* in them, if I had it not
'before, to ſee ſuch a *Man* and ſuch a *Book*
'treat me with ſuch *Brutiſh Malignity*. How-
'ever, I am verily perſwaded, that the Holy
'Lord, *whoſe we are, and whom we ſerve*, will
'at ſome time or other make this man a *Ma-*
'*gor Miſſabib*, for this his deliberate wickedneſs.
'I will ſay no more of it, but leave it in
'thoſe hands, which *alone* will do right unto us.

'About the *Troubles* which we have had
'from the *Inviſible World*, I have at preſent
'nothing to offer you; but that I believe they
'were too *Dark*, and too *Deep* for an ordinary
'Comprehenſion: and it may be *Errors* on *both*
'*Hands*, have attended them which will never
'be underſtood until the Day, when *Satan*
'*ſhall be Bound* after another manner then he is
'at this Day. But formy own part, I know not
'that ever I have advanced any opinion in
'the matter of *Witchcraft*, but what all the Mi-
'niſters of the Lord, that I know of in the
'world, whether *Engliſh*, or *Scotch*, or *French*
'or *Dutch* (and I know many) are of the ſame
'opinion with me.

'I'll diſmiſs the matter with one freſh piece
'of Hiſtory, and leave *you* to Think wherefore
'I report it.

'In the Year, 1698. my Reverend Friend 'Mr. *Thomas Jolly*, one of the moſt Holy Ser-'vants that the Lord Jeſus Chriſt has upon 'Earth, and an Aged and Famous Miniſter of the Goſpel, Publiſhed an Account of a certain *Demoniac* (one *Richard Dugdale*) which had late-ly been at *Surey* in his Neighbourhood. In that Account, among abundance of prodigi-ous Things which are Sworn by many Credible men, before the Lord *Willoughby*, and other Juſtices of the Peace; 'tis particularly Sworn, That the Young man, or the *Demon* in him, often told *Secret* and *Future* Things which no Mortal could have told, and would ſpeak Languages which the Young man had never Learnt: That the Young man being inordi-nately ſet upon *Dancing*, the *Demon* that en-tred into him, would made him *Dance* on his *Knees* his *Toes* never touching the ground, for a long while together; That the Young man would be ſo heavy, that Six or Seven ſtrong men could not lift him, and preſently again ſo light, that One man with his Hand would lift him Three Quarters of a Yard high, and hold him a long while, and find him no heavier, then his Hat, or his Cane: That ſomething like a *Mouſe* appeared about him, and within him, running up and down under his Cloathes, and the *Imp* ſometimes

'like the Bigneſs of a little *Dog* in his Bed;
'and Voices were heard coming from it. Theſe
'and many more Aſtoniſhing Things, conti-
'nued for a Year together; and there were
'Thouſands of *Spectators*, that came from all
'Quarters to be *Witneſſes* of thoſe Things. The
'Non-Conformiſt Miniſters, and other Chriſti-
'ans, in the Vicinity, (eſpecially Mr. *Jolly*)
'kept many Dayes of *Prayer* with *Faſting* on
'this occaſion; the Records whereof, he has
'Tranſcribed from his Diary into his Printed
'Hiſtory. After all, the Young man was de-
'livered; but as he was a very Vicious Fellow
'before his *Poſſeſſion*, ſo he was not much
'mended after his Deliverance. When the
'Tragedy was over, one *Zachary Taylor*, Print-
'ed a Virulent Book, (Juſt like our *Calefs*)
'which affirmed unto the Nation, That the
'the whole Buſineſs of *Dugdale*, was a *Cheat*,
'and a *Sham*, and a Combination of the *Roman-*
'*Catholicks* and the *Non-Conformiſts*, to put a
'Trick upon the Nation: and Reviled that
'Reverend man of God, Mr. *Jolly*, as Guilty of
'much *Falſity*, and *Forgery*, and *Blaſphemy*, and
'*Curſing*, and as deſigning to *hurt the Cauſe of*
'*Revealed Religion*, and as worthy to have his
'*Tongue bored through with an hot Iron*, and
'other Infamous paſſages, that can't be Num-
'bred. The Good Old Saint, publiſhed a
'Vindication of himſelf; (which is to be Sold
'at

'at our Book-ſellors) and I ſhall now recite
'but this one paſſage from it:

The Miniſters of Chriſt, under the Croſs, whoever they be, may comfort themſelves, in being made Conformable to their Lord and Maſter, when their Sayings and Doings are ſo perverted, when they are Laden with mock Titles, and Scourged by the loſe Tongues of others, who yet have their Hands bound in ſome meaſure, as the High-Prieſts and Elders, had by a Superior Power.

'For fear I ſhould not be *Satanically* enough
'*Sambenitoed* by thoſe paſſages, he has lit upon
'a *Third* method of Reviling: He falls upon
'the *Miniſters* as having oppoſed the *Reaſſumption* of the *Old Charter* by the people, after
'the *Revolution*; but *I* muſt be ſingled out,
'as having been above the reſt in that oppoſition. Come then, you ſhall have the Truth
'of that matter too. Let all the world know,
'if they pleaſe, that I was againſt our making
'a *Revolution* on this Bottom, that the Condemnation of our *Charter* was invalid; and
'that the Judgment paſſed upon it in the Court
'of *Chancery*, (however *Hard* enough yet)
'was *Null* and *Void*. On that Bottom it was
'impoſſible to have maintained it: neither the
'condition of *Men* and *Things* here at home,
'nor the Relation we bore to *England*, would
'have admitted it; No, it was to be Bottom-

'ed

'ed on the Invaſions that had been given to 'our *Engliſh Liberties*, rather than our *Char-* 'ter Liberties. Before the former Governour 'and Magiſtrates *Reaſſumed* their places, I then 'thought (and ſo did much wiſer men) it was 'neceſſary, a *Convention* ſhould give them aſſu- 'rance that the *Colony* would yield *Obedience*. 'When this was done, the *Old Government* 'was *Reaſſumed*, and the *Old Charter* too was '*Reaſſumed*, as far as it was poſſible to be done; 'Every thing in the world was done, but only 'declaring that the *Judgment* paſſed in the 'Kings Court of *Chancery* (however it might 'be thought a Grievance) did the *Charter* no 'Damage; which if ſome were wiſer then to 'ſay, who can help it? Well, did I oppoſe 'this *Reaſſumption!* They that were acquainted 'with me, I am ſure, did not think ſo; and 'they that ſent their *Tory Pamphlets* about the 'Countrey againſt me, as an *Impudent Youth*, 'for my aſſiſting the *Reaſſumed Government*, I 'am ſure did not think ſo. Let the things 'Publiſhed for the ſupporting of the *Reaſſumed* 'Government; and particularly the very *firſt* 'Paſſage in the *firſt Sermon*, at the *Anniverſary* '*Election*, which the Deputies of the *General* '*Court* called me to *Preach* and *Print*, (which 'by the way, would they have done, if the 'Young Man had been ſuch an one, as this 'man would render him?) be my Everlaſting

'Apology;

'Apology; and let *Calves* never Bleat, nor '*Bulls* (of *Bashan*) Roar againſt me, on that 'point any more.

'The laſt effort of his Malice is a *Poſtſcript* 'againſt the Life of Sir *William Phips*: againſt 'whoſe Memory, why any whoſe *throats are* 'an open *Sepulchre*, ſhould be ſo monſtrouſly 'envious, that like *Jackalls*, they can't let 'him reſt quietly in a *Sepulchre*, Good men 'can't imagine any reaſon, but the *third Chapter* 'of *Geneſis*. But all Conſiderate men will now 'believe, that the Invectives of ſuch as this 'Calef, againſt that good Spirited and well 'Meriting perſon, are as true as that which 'Calef ſayes, was uttered before the Kings 'Council-board againſt him, That Sir *William* 'ſtopt the proceedings againſt the *Witchcrafts*, 'becauſe his own Lady was Accuſed. A moſt 'putid Slander! But as I have rarely endured 'a Storm of being *Evil ſpoken* of, bnt for my 'ſpeaking Well of other (and vertuous) men, 'when I have had nothing of *Intereſt*, but 'meer *Principle* and *Conſcience* to move me un-'to it: ſo I have endured more than a little 'from ſome ſort of men, for my writing the 'Life of Sir *William Phips*, and *ſpeaking well* of 'him, without either Doing or Speaking Ill, 'againſt any one Good man under the whole 'Heavens, in the whole Compoſure. It ſeems,

'I

'I must now write an *Apology*, for that Book: 'for which I have no Confession to make, but, 'That I don't wish one Line of it unwritten. I 'have expresly declared, in the First Section 'of it; *It is not any Partiality for the Memory 'of my Deceased Friend, or any other Sinister 'design whatsoever, that hath Invited me to this 'undertaking; but I have undertaken this matter 'from a sincere Desire, that the Ever Glorious 'Lord JESUS CHRIST may have the Glory 'of His Power and Goodness, and of His Provi-'dence, in what He did for such a Person, and 'in what He Disposed & Assisted him to do for Him.* 'Some (I *know*, *why*?) have wished, That 'Book had not been written, But others, 'not inferiour to them, do Bless God, that 'ever it was written. And I think, and so do 'many more that love their Countrey, think, 'I had Reason enough to write it: If some 'think, I had *not*, however I have done *Them* 'no Hurt; and I do not often see Reason, in 'other cases as well as *This*, to be of *Their* 'opinion. Gentlemen of as good sense as any 'of them, in Letters from *England*, please to 'thank me for that Book; adding, *They who 'find fault with the Character of that person, are 'men who have not the Courage to Imitate his 'Vertues.* And Gentlemen of Greater Figure 'than any of them, in their Letters, are pleased 'to say, *Your Account of Sir* William Phips's

'*Life*

'*Life, was a Wiſe and Seaſonable work.* But ſome ſay; I have *Overdone*, and given my Deceaſed Friend, an higher *Encomium* than he deſerved. And if it were ſo, yet we find in other Inſtances, That the *Gentlemen* (if they be indeed ſuch) who criticiſe upon the *Lives* daily Publiſhed, when they are never ſo critical, do never make an *Author* Criminal, if he overdo a little, in ſetting off his *Hero*. But be patient a little, Sirs; The Higheſt that I have written of my Friend, is all ſumm'd up, in *p.* 105, 106. with theſe words; *I have not all this while ſaid, he was Faultleſs. It muſt be Confeſſed, leſt I ſhould prove a Flatterer, he had his Infirmities; but, I do from a real Satisfaction of Conſcience concerning him, declare to all the world, That I reckon him, to have been really a very worthy man; that few men in the world, Riſing from ſo mean an Original, as he, would have acquitted themſelves with a thouſandth part of his Capacity or Integrity; that he left unto the world a notable Exemple of a Diſpoſition to Do Good, and Encountred and Overcame almoſt Invincible Temptations in doing it.* Now, I believe, the Body of the People of *New-England*, will own that this is not *Overdoing*; But for thoſe few Friends of mine, who will ſtill call it *Overdoing*, I have two Offers to make them.

'**First.** If the *Addreſſes* which the Body of

'the

'the whole People of this Province, in the 'General Court Assembled, made unto the 'King and Queen for the continuance of Sir 'William Phips, in his Government, may be 'Published, (or at least the Character, which 'the General Court with an endeared Satis-'faction heard the Greatest person then in the 'Province, give of him, after the Tydings of 'his Death;) I'll be content that all my *En-'comium* of him, should be obliterated; I am 'sure, Sir *William* would be no loser by it.

'Secondly. When the Adversaries of Sir 'William Phips, have been as hard upon one 'of *Their's*, for his Emblazoning the Vertues, 'and Magnifying the Praises of another Go-'vernour (whose Mother had her support from 'the *Alms* of my Uncles Church in *Dublin*) in his '*considerations for the Colony of Connecticut*, I'll 'then Consider a little further, what my Faults 'are in telling, what many Thousands know 'and feel to be *True* about Sir *William*.

'That History is, I remember concluded 'with a well known passage in *Suidas*, That an '*Envious man* once going to pull down a *Statue*, 'which had been Erected unto the memory of 'one whom he Maligned, he only got this by 'it, that the *Statue* falling down, knock'd out 'his *Brains*. It was but *Justice* and *Prudence*, 'that one who so deserved of his Countrey as

'that

that Gentlemen did, ſhould have a *Statue*, and all that have hitherto gone to hur: in, have only got an *ill Name* unto themſelves. I would adviſe thoſe unkind people to deſiſt from ſuch a Barbarous and Ungenteel way of treating a Deceaſed Gentleman; for his *Friends* are ſo furniſhed, that theſe people will only daſh and wound themſelves againſt a *Tombſtone* that will not be broken. And Conſiderate men will think, and it will not be eaſy to perſwade the Body of the people in this Countrey otherwiſe, That Sir *Williams* Exemplary love to his Countrey, and the Churches in it, and his not giving himſelf up to evil Courſes, is all their Quarrel againſt him. The Hiſtory was no ſooner abroad, but in the Præface to the Life of Mr. *Baxter*, I inſerted ſuch words as theſe; *That Malice it ſelf may never hiſs with the leaſt Colour of Reaſon any more, I do here declare; let any man Living, Evince any one material miſtake in any of my Compoſures, it ſhall have the moſt Publick Recantation that can be deſired.* All men will ſay this offer was fair. Well, when mine (and Religions) Adverſaries, had with a concocted malice, done all they could, they thought at laſt they had found one paſſage, wherein they might impeach my Veracity. I had ſaid, That before *Quebeck*, Sir *William* lay *within Piſtol-Shot of the Enemies Canon*, and

that his Ship was Shot through, in *an Hundred places*, & that it was Shot through, with *Four and Twenty Pounders*. (Tis a groſs Hardſhip for any to take my meaning, as if *all* the Shot had been ſo.) And now they fall to Tragical Exclamations; they think *Four and Twenty Pounders* to be too ſmall Dimenſions, for the Clamours they muſt Batter me with-al? But, hold *Robin*, I am not ſo ſoon *Shot through*; and the *Statue* as I told thee, has *knock'd out thy Brains*. I wrote no more than the very words, which I find in a Journal of the Expidition to *Quebec*; and as any *Gentleman* may ſee it if he will, ſo there is no *Gentleman* but what will count this my ſufficient Excuſe. Talſt himſelf has lately owned, that that he verily believes I did ſo; Where then, my Friend, where was the Conſcience of this Out-Cry on my *Fidelity*? However, I began to ſuſpect, that I had been betrayed unawares, to *Flouriſh* this matter with more of a *Rhetorical Liberty*, than *Hiſtorical Exactneſs*; and I was almoſt ready, humbly to beg Pardon for one Paragraph (in all my poor Treatiſes) as guilty of aggravating a matter with too florid Circumſtances, But now the matter ſhall not go over ſo. Our Friend Talſt ſayes, *That they were not neaver the Enemy, then half or three quarters of a Mile*; and there *might be in all, Seven Shot that ſtruck the Hull of the*

'*Veſſel?* and *that none of them were known to be* '*bigger than Eighteen Pounders, the Enemy having* '*but one Gun, that could carry an Eighteen-Pound-*'*Ball.* Now, behold how the attempts of my 'Adverſaries to prove a *Falſhood* in me, *Recoil* 'upon themſelves. I affirm, that every one 'of his Aſſertions are *Falſe*; and I entreat 'you to repair to as honeſt men, as any aboard 'the Ship, who if they do not under their 'Hands demonſtrate, that the Aſſertions of '*Galef* are every one of them *Falſe*, and if 'they do not alſo Teſtifie and Juſtifie the *Truth* 'of what I have written, yea, that ſome of thoſe 'Individual *Four & Twenty Pounders* have been long 'uſed in ſome Domeſtick-uſes among our Neigh-'bours; I am content, you ſhould ſay what you 'pleaſe concerning me. But if mankind will not 'now Conſpire to deny me Juſtice, they will ac-'knowledge, that the *Truth* of my *Hiſtorical Wri-*'*tings*, has nothing ſhort of a *Triumph* in this Thing: 'when my fierceſt Enemies (for ſuch my poor Zeal 'to ſerve the Holy Churches of the Lord has 'procured me) have ranſacked as much as they 'pleaſed of what I have written, they can 'fix but upon one paſſage; which after all is 'found ſo inconteſtable.

'To take Notice of the many other obnox-'ious Things in this *odd Book*, would be Endleſs, 'and Uſeleſs. And yet now my Hand is in, 'I am content, that there be Two Remarks 'more made upon it. Firſt,

'First, Can *You* Comprehend, (for my part, 'I cannot!) where lies the Ingenuity or Sig-'nificancy, of my Neighbour *Calefs* Argumen-'tations? He pretends, to write a Book to 'prove, *That there are no such Witches*, as do 'hurt, by Confæderacies with *Devils*, (& that 'though the Bible expresly say, concerning the '*Witch* of *Endor*, *She was a Mistris of a Spirit*, 'yet there is no need of Believing what the '*Bible* sayes.) Well, How does he prove it? 'Thus; If Mr. *Mather* got several Ministers, 'to give him a Testimonial of his Fidelity 'in his Agency, *then there are no Witches*. But he 'did so; Therefore, ---- Again; If Mr. *Ma-'ther* procured Sir *William Phps* to be 'Governour, that he might get himself Establish-'ed Præsident of the *Colledge*, *then there are no* '*Witches*. But he did so; Therefore, --- Once 'more, If the *French* at *Quebec* Shot no Four 'and Twenty-Pounders, *then there are no Witches*. 'But the former is true; Therefore, --- Ad-'mirably argued! -- But because the *Conse-'quence* in these wonderful Arguments, is beyond 'my Reach, I must satisfy my self with only 'Denying the *Assumption* in each of them. 'No wonder that our Author threatens us, 'with *Refusing to admit into the work of the* '*Ministry*, *those that have been Educated in* '*School-Learning*. All our dull *School Learning*

'would

'would never Enable a man, to penetrate 'into the Sense and Force of this Incompara-'ble Reasoning. Truly, to penetrate into it, 'would rather be to prove *That there are 'Witches*: For who but *Witches*, were able to 'do it?

'Secondly, Though there are many Impi-'ous Assertions, in my Neighbour *Calefs* Vo-'lumn, yet there is but one that I shall ob-'serve to you, because the Impiety of it, out-'does all the rest, & almost all that ever I read 'in my Life. His words at the Eightieth page, 'are these: *To say, that God did at any time 'impower a Witch, to work wonders, to gain belief 'to the Doctrine of Devils, were with one Breath, 'to destroy root and branch, all Revealed Religion.* 'I pray Sirs, now turn to Deut. 13. 1, 2. *If 'there arise among you a Prophet, or a Dreamer 'of Dreams, & gives thee a Sign or a Wonder, & 'the Sign or the Wonder come to pass, whereof 'he spake to thee, saying, Let us go after other 'Gods, --- Thou shalt not hearken to the words of 'that Prophet for the Lord your God proveth you.* 'Yea, 'tis expressly said concerning the great-'est *Idolatry* that ever was in the world, Rev. '13. 14. *He Deceives them which dwell on the 'Earth, by means of those MIRACLES which he 'had POWER to do*: And Rev. 19. 20. *The 'False Prophet wrought MIRACLES, with which*

'he

be DECEIVED.] Whereas, according to *Calef*, if there do arise a *False Prophet*, (which by the way, is a *Witch*, according to his Definition of one) and he should have power to do a *Sign* or a *Wonder*, and he should say, *I Preach to you another God, besides Jesus Christ, you must let go all the Revealed Religion of Jesus Christ*; We have a sufficient warrant now to give up all the *Revealed Religion* of our Holy Jesus, to Turn *Mahometan*, or *Deists*, or *Pagans*, or any thing that a *Devil* shall propose unto us. *Calef* teaches us, to *go after other God*, if a *Witch* may *work wonders* to invite us unto it; and this he does, after he had said, (p. 25.) That a *Possessed person* being lifted up, and held a space of several minutes in the Air, [of which being done in our Neighbourhood, he had several uncontroulable Testimonies, of Neighbours, that are far honester men than himself,] *is as true a miracle*, as those recorded in the Scripture. And it is well known, That the *Quakers* formerly, and especially that Goblin *Tom Case*, often did *Wonders* (not much inferiour to those of *Apollonius Tyaneus*, of which you have read,) if this were one, that by *Breathing* or *Stroaking* on people, they would make them follow them, like so many *Spaniels* all the Countrey over; or if this were one, that by fixing their Eye on

'on ſome of their followers at any time, they 'would make them voluntarily *Fall* & *Foam* & '*Roll* about, until they came unto the *Feet* of 'of theſe Enchanters, who by a Touch of their '*Hands* would then ſet them upon their *Feet* 'again. To tell us, we muſt part with *Root* 'and *Branch of all Revealed Religion*, if Sedu-'cers may get power to *work wonders*, is as 'Dangerous and as Damnable a poſition, as ever 'dropt from the Pen of man: 'tis fit only to 'be written with a Quill of an *Harpy*. Where, 'I beſeech you, where is the *Grace* or *Senſe* of 'ſuch *Readers*, (or are any ſuch *Readers* worthy 'to be *Teachers* of others?) who could Read 'over this Book, and ſay *They ſaw no Hurt in* 'it! Give me leave: That vile Book of *Tom* 'Maules, which the General Court Condemned 'unto the *Flames*, had not in it a more hideous 'piece of Doctrine, then this of *Robert Caleſ*. 'I pray, let *Serious Chriſtians* Conſider it!

'And indeed, *Serious Chriſtians* have already 'Conſidered the Book ſo far, that this man 'has made himſelf *too manifeſt unto all men*, for 'him to *proceed any further* with any ſucceſs. 'People at firſt were a little eager to ſee the 'Book, as they would be to ſee a *Prodigy*; 'for they generally reckoned it a very *Prodigy* 'of wickedneſs. But they are now ſatisfied, 'That if he ſhould go on to write never ſo

'many more such *Volumns*, they would lye 'upon his hands; no sober people would 'vouchsafe to look upon them.

'I will give your patience no further trou-'ble. *Satan* was doubtless in hopes by these 'Libels, to damnify my precious *Opportunities*, 'of serving the Lord Jesus Christ: But as I 'have cause to hope, that the Lord *will requite* 'me Good for the Cursing that I have encountred; 'so, my *Opportunities* to do Good, will be 'strangely preserved and increased. They are 'not in *Satans* hands; I commit my cause to 'Him that *Judges Righteously*: and I would 'humbly hope, That nothing shall befal me, 'but what shall promote the *Evangelical Inte-'rests*. In the mean time, though this *Profane 'Mocker* do Scoff at the recording of *Remark-'able Providences*; and among such, he par-'ticulary enumerates this, That the first person, 'whose Funeral our new Bell toll'd for, was one 'of my Children, which by the way, is a gross 'Lye in matter of Fact; & if it had been true, I 'know nothing so very *Remarkable* in it: yet 'I would not have him Scoff too much at *Re-'markable Providences*; for he does not know, 'what the Hand of Heaven may do upon 'himself.

'All I would add, shall be to tell you, what

'I use

'Uſe I would make of theſe *Allatrations*. I 'remember, I have read, That the *Muſcovites* 'travelling vaſt Journies on the *Ice*, in *Sledds* 'drawn by *Reine Deer*, to make the *Deer* diſ-'patch with incredible Diligence, they tye a '*Dog* in the *Sled*, who by his continual *Bark-'ing* ſets the *Deer* a running with ſuch ſpeed, 'as to Draw its burthen (they tell us) Forty 'Leagues a day. I hope, I am travelling to 'the *Heavenly World*, and carrying as many 'with me thither as I can: But I Fear I 'am too Slothful; through my Slothfulneſs, 'I don't uſe Diſpatch enough; (though my 'Flattering Friends think this the leaſt of 'my Faults.) Now, that I may be quickned 'in my *Heavenly Work*, and *Heavenward Race*, 'there muſt it ſeems, be provided for me 'ſomething to *Bark* at me ſo Loud, that all 'the Countrey ſhall hear of it. Now, God 'forbid, that I ſhould complain of ſo wiſe a 'Diſpenſation. It won't be long before I am 'out of Hearing; and where the *wicked ceaſe 'from Troubling*.

In the mean time;

SIRS,

I am Sincerely Yours;

COTTON MATHER.

'According to the Desire of this Reverend Person, we have now received several Testimonies, from Honest men, that were aboard the Ship, mentioned in the Letter. But because they all concur in the same thing, we shall here transcribe only one of them, which is as followeth ;

'Being desired to certifie, what we know 'concerning certain passages in a *Libellous Book* 'of one *Robert Calef* ; affirming, That the Admiral of our Fleet lying before *Quebec* was 'not within *Pistol-Shot of the Enemy* ; and that 'the *Ship was not Shot through in an Hundred* 'places ; and that *no more than about Seven Shot* 'Struck the *Hull of the Vessel* ; and *none of them* 'known to be above Eighteen Pounders, the E-'nemy having but one Gun (sayes he) that 'could carry so big as an Eighteen-Pound Ball. 'We whose Names are subscribed, can Convict the Falsehood of those Assertions.

'We can Assert, That the Enemies *Small* 'Shot not only came aboard us, but also went 'much beyond us.

'We can also to this day reckon up, as we 'judge, to the best part of *Three-Score* particular 'places, where we can remember the Ship was 'in one part or an other Shot through : and 'near *Twenty* places at least (if not more)

'in

'in the *Hull* of the Ship; and if he that re-
'ports it ſhould ſay, the Ship was *Shot through*
'*in an Hundred places*, we could not *Contradict*
'it, but rather *Juſtifie* it.

'We were alſo well aſſured, that the Enemy
'Shot *Four and Twenty Pounders*, becauſe we
'could not Charge our Guns with ſuch of
'them as were preſerved, though ſome of our
'Guns carried *Eighteen Pounders*. And the
'Gunners alſo took the *Meaſure* of them (and
'ſaid they likewiſe *Weighed* them) and found
'them to be *Four and Twenty Pounders*.

Boſton, December
3rd. 1700.

To this Teſtimony, and to the others, the Names of ſeveral very Honeſt men then aboard, and ſome that were (as *Gunners* and *Carpenters*) beſt able to make report of theſe things, are Subſcribed with their *own Hands*, which we have ready to produce unto any one that ſhall ask to ſee them. And now let the world ſay, whether a greater kindneſs could in effect be done, unto the Reputation of this worthy man, and the Credit of his *Hiſtorical Writings*, (by which the Lord has been ſo much Glorified,) than to ſee that the *only paſſage*, which his Enemy can ſingle out, turns back upon thoſe that make their Cavils,

We

We have taken Notice of a certain passage, which bears hard upon Mr. *Cotton Mather*. Our Friend Calef, speaking of the Tryal of one Goody *Glover*, who was Executed, for afflicting the Children of our Friend, Mr. *John Goodwin*; In p. 152. of his Book, he sayes, *Mr.* Cotton Mather, *was the most active and forward of any Minister in the Country, in those matters, taking home one of the Children* &c. Our Friend, who of all men had most reason to know the Truth, does declare to Mr. *Mathers* Vindication, as followeth;

'Let the World be informed, that when 'one of my *Children* had been Labouring under 'sad Circumstances from the *Invisible World*, for 'about a quarter of a Year, I desired the *Ministers* of *Boston* with *Charlestown*, to keep a 'Day of *Prayer* at my House, if so be *Deliverance* might be obtained; Mr. *Cotton Mather* 'was the last of the *Ministers* that I spoke to 'on that occasion, and though by reason of 'some necessary business, he could not attend, 'yet he came to my House in the morning of 'that Day, and tarried about half an hour, and 'went to Prayer with us, before any other 'Minister came. Never before now, had I 'the least acquaintance with him. About 'three or four *Months* after this, I desired that

'another

'another Day of *Prayer* might be kept by the 'aforesaid *Ministers*, which accordingly they 'did, and Mr. *Cotton Mather* was then present. 'But he never gave me the least advice, neither '*Face to Face*, nor by by way of *Epistles*, neither '*Directly*, nor *Indirectly*; but the motion of 'going to the *Authority*, was made to me, by 'a *Minister* of a Neighbouring Town, now De-'parted. And matters were managed by me 'in *Prosecution* of the supposed *Criminal*, whol-'ly without the *Advice* of any *Minister* or 'Lawyer, or any *other person*. The *Ministers* 'would now and then, come to visit my *dis-'tressed Family*, and pray with and for them; 'among which, Mr. *Cotton Mather* would now 'and then come, and go to Prayer with us: 'yet in all that time, he never advised me 'to any thing concerning the *Law*, or *Tryal* 'of the *Accused person*; but after that *Wicked 'woman* had been Condemned about a *Fortnight*, 'Mr. *Cotton Mather* invited *one* of my *Chil-'dren* to his House; and within a day or two 'after that, the *Woman* was Executed.

John Goodwin.

Now, Behold how active and forward Mr. *Mather* was, in transacting the *Affairs*, relating to this *Woman*; and be Astonished, that ever any *One* should go to insinuate such things to the world,

world, as are known by most that ever heard of those Afflicted Children, to be so far different from *Truth*. We wonder Friend, what made you to wander so far from the design of your *Book*, (which you tell us, p. 3, of your Præface, is to *prevent any more such Bloody Victims or Sacrafices, and the Vindication of the Truth*,) as to do what in you lies, to lessen the Esteem of those *Servants* of *Christ*, (which you make your chiefest *Butts*) among the *Lords People*. Surely, it was not to *Prove* your *Principles* about Witchcraft: that would discover the *Weakness* of your cause, which we don't desire to meddle with, thinking it fitter for wiser men. Neither was it (we would hope) to gratify the *Ungodly*: that would be to appear on the *wrong side*. We would gladly suppose, it was not to raise your your *own Credit* upon the fall of *Theirs*, was it? If so, the stone rolls upon your self. Had you duely Considered that Text, Zech. 2. 8. *He that toucheth you, toucheth the Apple of mine Eye*; we have Charity to hope, you would never have ventured, as in your *Book* you have done, even, to put those *Servants* of *Christ*, into *Bear Skins*, for you know who to worry them. You can't but see some such Effects already in what you have done. We pray God *Pardon* your Sin, and give you the *Grace* to Repent. You may, for all us, write what *Arguments* you please,

pleaſe, for the Defence of your own *Principles*, and if you had only done ſo *Now*, you would never in this *Way* have heard from us; wherefore our *Advice* to you is (if it be worth taking) whatever you do, don't venture to inſinuate, any more ſuch *Slanders* and *Falſhoods* to the world, as you have already done; but if the *Evil Spirit* tempt you to it, Let *us* entreat you, before you do it, ſeriouſly to Conſider, Mat. 25. 42. where our Saviour ſayes, *He takes what is done to His, as done to Himſelf*: For we are ſure, according to Charity, you dare not ſay, they are not the *Servants of Chriſt*, & *Faithful in their Generation*.

We ſhall now add no more; But we read, that when ſome perſons not of the greateſt Figure, appeared for the Bleſſed *Paul*, againſt them that were his Adverſaries, *all the Churches gave them Thanks*. Thus we do believe, that the *Churches*, will *give us Thanks*, for our appearing to Vindicate in this manner the Reputation of our Paſtors; (we are verily perſwaded, few will ſo openly make themſelves *partakers of this mans Sins*, as to expreſs any diſlike of ſo Juſt an action:) Becauſe it was the end of Satan, to hinder all the *Churches*, from the Good and Benefit of their Labours. But we ſhall undoubtedly find *Satan* and his *Inſtruments* fruſtrated.

To conclude, we cannot hear of any one Pious person, that does approve of *Robert Cates* most *Scandalous Book*. Many rather think that the writer of it, ought to have some *Exemplary* Punishment inflicted on him, that others might *hear and fear, and that none may hereafter do any more so wickedly.* He falls under the weight of many *Prayers*; For we can assure him, that more than a *Few*, have carried him before God, with *Complaints* of the Injuries which he hath done to the *Name* of Christ, by Slandering His Faithful and Eminent *Servants*. He has done *Them* much wrong, and may fear that the *Lord will Reward him according to his works.*

POSTSCRIPT

POSTSCRIPT.

WHile these Papers were in the Press, it was understood, That some endeavoured to make this Vindication to be of no Effect, by Cavilling, That it is a Fallacy, and that it is *the Work* of the *Pastors* Vindicated, & none of *Theirs* who have set their Names unto it. Now, tho' the work will sufficiently clear it self, to all Impartial Readers, and there are other witnesses enough to prove this Cavil to be False; Yet that no person may be so unreasonable as to mention it any more, it hath been thought not amiss to annex the ensuing Declaration.

'THat we may clear our Friends from a 'Calumny, we hear cast upon them, as 'if one of us were the Author, of what goes 'under *their Name*, in their *Essay* for our just 'Vindication, we do hereby Declare (each of 'us for himself,) *That the said Calumny is very 'False*. Yea, we were so far from Composing 'of this *Essay*, that we *Earnestly* but *Fruitlesly*, ask'd 'of them, to *Abate* some Expressions, of their 'Good and Kind opinions concerning us, which 'are now Occurring in it.

'And if the plain *Dissimilitude of Style*, were

'not

'not a ſufficient Evidence for them, yet no 'man knows the Flock whereto they belong, 'who does not know, That there are many 'perſons in it, whoſe *Talents* would enable them 'to write as well as *this Book* is written, and 'much better than *that* which this hath an-'ſwered.

'But what needs any more be ſaid? When '*One* of theſe *Seven Brethren*, more than Ten 'years ago, had a Diſcourſe of his own Printed, 'in a *Style* not inferiour to this; And (not 'more particularly to mention *One* of the *Seven* '*Subſcribers*, who with *Joy* ſet his Hand unto this 'work, while he lay Sick of the Sickneſs that 'carried him to a better World, and went 'thither the more *Joyfully* for his having done 'ſo;) *Others* of them have not improved ſo lit-'tle under their Evangelical Advantages and 'Exerciſes, that they ſhould be unable to write 'as well as now they do: Though which of 'them, hath been *moſt* concerned in it, we 'perceive they are not willing to have expoſed.

'For the Satisfaction of the Publick, we judge 'it convenient further to add, That we ſo 'far deſpiſed the Aſſaults, which our *Inconſide-*'*rable Adverſary* had made upon us, as to think 'it not worth the while to anſwer his Imper-'tinent *Libels* and *Slanders*. Nor did we ever

'propoſe

'propoſe it unto *any One* of the Brethren in 'our Church, to Anſwer them for us.

'And when Theſe, with more Brethren, 'came to us, with an offer to do, what they 'have now done, though we could not but 'heartily Thank them for their Affection to us, '[*The Lord give Mercy to them and their Houſes, 'who were not Aſhamed of our Cauſe!*] Yet we 'had never permitted them to do it, if it had 'not been for *This* Conſideration; That albeit 'there was little Hazard, that the Dirt, of 'our *Adverſaries Book* (which we *bind as a 'Crown unto us*) would at all ſo ſtick as to 'Damnify our precious opportunities, to Glo-'rifie our Lord Jeſus Chriſt in this Countrey, 'where we have been known from our Child-'hood; but the poor man (whom we heartily 'pity) and his Book, had only made them-'ſelves *Loathſome* to all *Sober People*: Never-'theleſs the Dirty Book, was carried abroad 'unto ſome of the *Iſlands*, where it was more 'needful for us to have our Friends furniſhed 'with our *Vindication*: And we were alſo ſen-'ſible, That there were many Good men, who 'would be glad of being informed in many '*Particulars*, which are brought now to light.

'But even in this matter alſo, we were 'grown ſomewhat *Cold*, until ſome would have

'perſwaded

'perſwaded our Brethren, to deſiſt from their 'Action, becauſe our Enemies Threatned, *That 'they would write again, and bring to light other 'things*, (we know not what) *againſt us*. 'Theſe *Threats* only Confirmed us in our *Con-'ſent* and *Advice*, That our Brethren ſhould 'go on, and rendred it indeed abſolutely Ne-'ceſſary. For we have not Lived ſo, but that '(through the Grace of Chriſt) we can Defie 'all the *Malice* of all our Enemies. Let them 'tell all the *Truths* they can poſſibly diſcover 'concerning us : But if they go on with telling 'of *Lies*, the *Infatuated men* have already done 'ſo much that way, that they have only lai[d] '*themſelves* open unto the Reſentments of Good 'men, from one end of the Land unto the 'other, and (while *we* were far from doing 'or wiſhing them any *Hurt*) they have *Hurt 'themſelves* a Thouſand Times more than 'either of us. Yea, the Glorious Lord, *whoſe 'we are, and whom we ſerve*, will cauſe *thoſe 'that ſeek our Soul, to deſtroy it*, (and our *Op-'portunities* to do good unto the *Souls of others*, 'which are dear to us as our *own Souls*) to 'find firſt or laſt the fulfilment of that word, *'The mouth of them that ſpeak Lies ſhall be ſtopped.*

'All we have to add is, That we would *Bleſs 'and not Curſe thoſe who Perſecute us*, and 'fervently Pray to God, for His *Beſt Bleſſings*

'on

'on the very *Worſt* of all our *Perſecutors*:
'and would have them know, That though
'they may oblige us to *Defend* onr ſelves, we
'hope, they ſhall not provoke us to *Revenge*
'any wrongs they may do unto us. And if
'any by their Envious Vexing and Carping,
'at the fair *Vindication* of our *Innocency*, do
'make themſelves *Parties* with our *Perſecutors*,
'and *Partakers* in the Sins of their Book,
'and would make *New-England*, the only
'Countrey where it is a Crime for *Innocency*
'to have a *Vindication*, we Forgive *theſe* alſo,
'and *Pray*, That they may be Forgiven.

INCREASE MATHER.

Jan. 9*th.*
1700, 1. COTTON MATHER.

FINIS.

The Reader is deſired to mend theſe ſmall Faults, that have eſcaped the Preſs.

PAge 16. *l.* 24. *r.* the open. *p.* 21. *l.* 16. *dele* ſay. *p.* 31. *l.* 28. *f.* whould *r.* would. *p.* 36 *l.* *l.* 10. *f.* Antiſeriptural *r.* Antiſcriptural. *p.* 37. *l.* 2. *f.* acquainten *r.* acquainted. *p.* 41. *l.* 29. *dele* could. *p.* 52. *l.* 17. *dele* that. *p.* 57, *l.* 3. *dele* of. *p.* 62. *l.* 10. *f.* had *r.* has. *p.* 64. *l.* 18. *dele* your.